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Agenda item 109 (d)

Human rights questions: comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

Report of the Third Committee*

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I. Introduction

1. At its 19th plenary meeting, on 20 September 2002, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-seventh session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions", the sub-item entitled "Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Third Committee considered the sub-item at its 32nd and 56th meetings, on 1 and 20 November 2002. An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/57/SR.32 and 56).

II. Consideration of draft decision A/C.3/57/L.84

3. At its 56th meeting, on 20 November, the Committee had before it a draft decision entitled "Commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the World Conference on Human Rights in 2003" (A/C.3/57/L.84), which was submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft decision A/C.3/57/L.84 without a vote (see para. 5).

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in six parts, under the symbol A/57/556 and Add.1-5.

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III. Recommendation of the Third Committee

5. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the World Conference on Human Rights in 2003

The General Assembly, considering that 2003 will mark the tenth anniversary of the World Conference on Human Rights, and reaffirming its commitment to the fulfilment of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference,[1] decides that, during its fifty-eighth session, the plenary meeting on 10 December 2003 marking the fifty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[2] will also be devoted to the commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, with contributions by Governments, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and relevant organs, funds and agencies of the United Nations system within their respective mandates.

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[1] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[2] Resolution 217 A (III).